Inflation on Weekly Basis

1439. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) rate of inflation on weekly basis during Setpember, October and November, 1993;

(b) how does it compare with the weekly inflation during the same period during 1991 and 1992;

(c) what are the reasons for rise in wholesale Price Index during October-November, 1993;

(d) the steps taken to keep the rate of inflation under control?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b) The requisite details are as under:

Week ending	Annual Rate of Inflation (% (Point-to-Point)		
	1993	1991	1992
4-9-1993	9.2	16.5	9.1
11-9-1993	9.1	16.5	9.0
18-9-1993	8.2	16.3	10.2
25-9-1993	8.5	15.9	10.2
2-10-1993	8.8	15.3	10.6
9-10-1993	7.4(P)	15.2	10.4
16-10-1993	7.1(P)	14.1	10.6
23-10-1993	7.5(P)	14.0	10.6
30-10-1993	7.9(P)	13.3	10.2
6-11-1993	8.4(P)	14.6	9.4
13-11-1993	8.5(P)	14.9	9.0
20-11-1993	8.4(P)	14.9	8.8
27-11-1993	8.5(P)	14.7	8.6

(c) The main reason for rise in the wholesale price index during October-November, 1993 is the higher increase in the prices of primary articles such as foodgrains, edible oils and raw material such as jute and sugarcane. Higher minimum support price for wheat, rice, sugarcane and jute is one reason of rise in market price of primary commodities Disruption due to truckers strike twice in the year is another reason. Another important/ reason underlying the increase in inflation rate is the fiscal deficit which has widened in the current year.

(d) For moderating the price rise the Government's intervention is primary in augmenting supplies of essential commodities. Apart from increasing allocation through the PDS, open market sales of by FCI have been initiated. Import of 1 lakh tonnes of edible oils has been ordered to augment domestic supplies. Higher quantities of sugar were also released to keep the prices under check during the festival season.

Growth of Non-Plan Expenditure

1440. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the trends in the growth of non-plan expenditure during the last years; and

(b) the details of the steps taken to control non-plan expenditure; and the achievements made so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) and (b) Non-plan expenditure of the Central Government during the last three years are given below broad details:

(Rs. in crores

NON-PLAN EXPENDITURE	1990-91 (Actuals)	1991-92 (Actuals)	1992-93 (R.E.)
Interest	21498	26563	32500
Defence	15426	16347	17500
Police	1564	1849	2100
Pensions	2138	2389	3018
Subsidies	12158	12270	10108
Other Non-plan expenditure	24149	21051	20527
TOTAL	76933	80469	87753

As may be observed, the increase in non-plan expenditure is mainly on interest